IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kuniyasu MATSUMOTO et al.

Application No.: 10/810,698 Group Art Unit: 2682

Confirmation No.: 1172

Filed: March 29, 2004 Examiner: James Pilkington

For: LAYING DEVICE FOR LAYING LINE ELEMENT

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 27, 2007, applicants elect Species III, without traverse. The March 27, 2007 Office Action identified Fig. 7 as corresponding to Species III. Claims 1-4 and 7 read on Fig. 7. Therefore, prompt examination of claims 1-4 and 7 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: April 24, 2007 By: Richard A. Gollhofer/

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